

Matsunaga fails to disclose all of the features of claims 1 and 9 because Matsunaga reduces torque if the motor does not rotate. At step S31 of Fig. 2B, the controller 12 determines whether the present phase domain is the same (col. 6, lines 22-26). If the phase domain is the same, the output torque of the motor 5 is reduced by subtracting a displacement torque from a limitation torque (col. 6, lines 27-54 and Fig. 2B, steps S33 and S37) in order to avoid overheating. If the phase domain is not the same, then the output torque remains the same (col. 6, lines 55-59 and Fig. 2B, step 35).

Matsunaga thus fails to disclose reducing the torque of the vehicle motor when a selected temperature exceeds a restrictive temperature as called for by claims 1 and 9, but instead reduces torque if the phase domain remains the same. In addition, as admitted in the Office Action, Matsunaga fails to disclose selecting a temperature from a coil of the plurality of coils where a maximum current flow is detected as called for by claims 1 and 9.

Shimazaki fails to overcome all of the deficiencies of Matsunaga because Shimazaki also fails to disclose reducing torque using a selected temperature. Shimazaki states that the stalled state is determined based on the accelerator opening and the rotational speed of the motor. After the stalled state is determined, Shimazaki simply states that the drive current of the motor is reduced. Shimazaki also fails to disclose or suggest reducing torque using temperature or when a selected temperature exceeds a restrictive temperature as called for by claims 1 and 9.

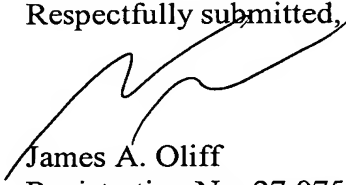
In addition, Shimazaki fails to select a temperature from a coil of the plurality of coils where a maximum current flow is detected, as called for by claims 1 and 9. In Shimazaki, a temperature sensor is provided only in one phase armature coil (paragraph [0017], lines 2 and 3). As a result, Shimazaki cannot select a temperature from a coil of a plurality of coils.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Scott M. Schulte  
Registration No. 44,325

JAO:SMS/khm

Attachment:  
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: December 21, 2007

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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